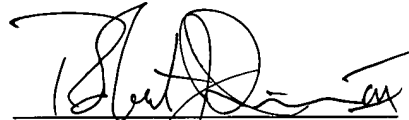


## CONCLUSION

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowability of claims 12-27. Applicants have cancelled the remaining claims without prejudice for further prosecution in a divisional application. Applicants submit that the application is in good and proper form for allowance and respectfully request the Examiner to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney, at 312-913-3305.

Respectfully submitted,

McDONNELL BOEHNEN  
HULBERT & BERGHOFF LLP



By:

Robert J. Irvine III  
Registration No. 41,865

Date: March 10, 2005